13th November, 1992 at New Delhi to discuss the various issues pertaining to the Administration of Criminal Justice. The Conference *inter-alia* endorsed a time bound programme for adoption in respect of—

(i) Amendment of Cr.P.C., IPC, and Evidence Act, to remedy the weaknesses and shortcomings found in their operations;

(ii) Exploring possibilities of improvements in procedures to ensure speedy trial in Courts;

(iii) Setting up of Directorates of Prosecution to effectively supervise the investigation and prosecution;

(iv) Training of investigative officers, judicial officials and prosecutors at various levels;

(v) Exploring alternatives to prison sentences by de-penalisation and de-institutionalisation;

(vi) Securing redress to victims of crime; and

(vii) Reduction in overcrowding in jails by streamlining the bail provisions.

The Conference also decided to set up a Steering Group comprising the Union Home Minister, concerned Central Ministers and some Chief Ministers to continuously monitor the implementation of the several major proposals contained in the agenda for the Conference.

The Steering Committee will consider the various proposals and make suggestions for appropriate action by the Government.

(b) No statistical data are available in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Rail Fare concession to retired personnel of A.P. Special Police Force

4122. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that A.P. Special Police Force is not paying Rail fare concession to its personnel on their retirement to reach their native place;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether the Central Government would direct the authorities to take corrective steps in the matter so that morale of police force fighting with Naxalites is not undermined;

(c) what is the number of pending cases for claiming RFC on retirement at present with the commandant APSP Hyderabad; and

(d) by when these valient protectors of peace will be given RFC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d) 'Police' is a State subject. Decisions regarding payment of Rail fare concession to State Police personnel are entirely within the purview of the State Government.

Development of border area of Banaskantha District in Gujarat

4123. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any consideration to develop border areas of Banaskantha District in Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have considered to provide telephone, power (Electricity), water and other facilities on priority basis; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) The border Area Development programme was taken up during 1986-87 with the objective of achieving an integrated develop-